

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY Polish-Occupied Germany Poland REPORT 25X1

TOPIC 1. Tank Proving Grounds near Gleiwitz (Gliwice) 25X1

2. Polish Labor Troops in Tost (Toszek) 25X1

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 13 April 1955 25X1

DATE OBTAINED

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

 25X1

This is UNEVALUATED
Information

1. Prior to August 1954, a Polish unit, soldiers of which wore khaki uniforms with red service color was located in the former mental hospital on the west side of the Peiskretscham (Q 51/Y 38) road inside the city limits. Soldiers of this unit went daily aboard a special passengers' train from Tost to Laband (Q 51/Y 38) where they worked in the rolling mill in several shifts. The soldiers also received military training in Tost. They allegedly included numerous Germans, some of whom came from Upper Silesia. In August 1954, residents of Tost said that the troops were scheduled to move. At that time, the soldiers were not taken to the rolling mill. Prior to August 1954, no other military units or installations were located in Tost.¹
 2. In 1954, a restricted area which was enclosed by a barbed-wire fence was observed in the wooded area on the east side of the Gleiwitz (Q 51/Y 37) - Peiskretscham road and north of . A newly constructed road led from the Laband tank factory to the restricted area with white eagle emblems and occupied by soldiers were observed entering the restricted area on this road. At one time, three tanks were observed, while at another time two tanks were seen travelling on this road. These tanks were allegedly manufactured and also turned over to the armed forces in Laband. No specifications on the tanks were available.²
 3. On 26 April 1954, the former mental hospital in Tost housed a mechanics' school where machinists, lathe operators, etc., were trained in two years' courses. The installation was a public school which was called the mechanical engineering school.
1. Comment. It is believed that the unit observed is a labor battalion. It is reported for the first time that these units are also used in ~~distinct~~ armament plants such as the Laband factory. 25X1
 2. Comment. It is believed that the area mentioned in the present report is a proving grounds of the Laband tank factory. 25X1

SECRET

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2. In 1954, a restricted area which was enclosed by a barbed-wire fence was observed in the wooded area on the east side of the Gleiwitz (Q 51/Y 37) - Peiskretscham road and north of the Autobahn. A newly constructed road led from the Laband tank factory to the restricted area. Tanks with white eagle emblems and occupied by soldiers were observed entering the restricted area on this road. At one time, three tanks were observed, while at another time two tanks were seen travelling on this road. These tanks were allegedly manufactured and also turned over to the armed forces in Laband. No specifications on the tanks were available.
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